Alberta Finance

Economic Bulletin

Economic Statistics Released During the Week of September 16, 2002 to September 20, 2002

	Reference Period	Month/Previous Month (m/m)	Month/Previous Year's Month (y/y)	Comments
Manufacturing Shipments	July			In July, Canadian manufacturing shipments increased for the first time in three months, fuelled by strong consumer confidence, a healthy labour market, and very low interest rates. Five provinces recorded increased manufacturing shipments in July, including Manitoba (3.4%), British Columbia (2.6%), and Ontario (2.0%). Between January and July, Alberta's manufacturing shipments decreased 9.1%, compared to 0.8% decrease for Canada.
($ millions)				
Alberta	3,370	-0.4%	-4.3%	
Canada	43,628	1.0%	4.4%	
Consumer Price Index	August			In August, the Canadian CPI rose 2.6% compared to the same month last year. The commodity groups with most significant price increases compared to August 2001 included cigarettes (40.2%) and automotive insurance premiums (15.5%). On annual basis, Alberta's August CPI remained below the Canadian average.
(1992=100)				
Alberta	124.3	0.2%	2.3%	
Canada	120.1	0.4%	2.6%	
Wholesale Trade	July			In July, wholesale trade in Canada increased 0.7%, continuing its generally upward trend since November 2001. Nevertheless, only five provinces recorded increase in wholesale sales, with strongest gains in Nova Scotia (2.5%), Newfoundland (2.1%), and Ontario (1.3%).
($ millions)				
Alberta	3,509	0.4%	-1.2%	
Canada	34,749	0.7%	4.9%	